AMENDMENT

Please amend the application without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows.

In the Claims

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A target adipose tissue cell transduced or infected with [[the]] a viral vector, wherein the viral vector is a retroviral vector, and wherein the retroviral vector is pseudotyped with at least part of an env protein ~~system of claim 1~~.

13. (Currently amended) A method of transducing or infecting a target adipose tissue cell comprising contacting the cell with a viral vector ~~system comprising a viral vector, wherein the viral vector is pseudotyped with a nucleotide sequence that encodes at least part of an env protein~~.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the viral vector is a retroviral vector, and wherein the retroviral vector is pseudotyped with at least part of an env protein ~~is a rabies G protein, a VSV G protein, a cocal virus glycoprotein, a chandipura virus glycoprotein, or a mutant, homologue or fragment thereof~~.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the viral vector ~~system is derived from~~ is based on a retrovirus, a poxvirus, a herpes virus, a baculovirus, an adenovirus [[and]] or an adeno-associated virus.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the retrovirus is a lentivirus.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the lentivirus is EIAV or HIV.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the viral vector ~~system~~ comprises at least one nucleotide sequence of interest (NOI).

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the at least one NOI is a selection gene, a marker gene, a therapeutic gene, an antisense sequence or a cDNA library.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the at least one NOI blocks or inhibits the expression of a gene in [[a]] the target adipose tissue cell.

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein at least part of the at least one NOI integrates into the genome of [[a]] the target adipose tissue cell.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the at least one NOI encodes a protein of interest (POI).

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the POI is a therapeutic protein.

24. (Currently amended) A method of delivering an NOI to a target adipose tissue cell, comprising contacting the target adipose tissue cell with [[the]] a retroviral ~~viral~~ vector, wherein the retroviral vector comprises an NOI, and wherein the retroviral vector is pseudotyped with at least part of an env protein ~~system of claim 6~~.

25. (Currently amended) A method of analysing the function of a gene present in a target adipose tissue cell, or of a protein encoded by the gene, comprising contacting the target adipose tissue cell with a viral vector comprising at least one NOI, ~~the viral vector system of claim 8~~, whereby expression of the gene is blocked or inhibited by [[the]] expression of at least one NOI in the target adipose tissue cell.

26. (Currently amended) A method of treating a disease associated with adipose tissue metabolism in a subject in need of the same, comprising transducing a target adipose tissue cell of the subject with ~~the viral vector system of claim 1~~ a retroviral vector comprising at least one NOI, wherein the retroviral vector is pseudotyped with at least part of an env protein, and wherein the at least one NOI is expressed in the target adipose tissue cell, thereby treating the disease in the subject.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the disease may cause or be associated with obesity, diabetes, or both.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the target adipose tissue cell is transduced *ex vivo* and transplanted into the subject.

29. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the at least part of the env protein is a rabies G protein, a VSV-G protein, a cocal virus glycoprotein, or a chandipura virus glycoprotein.

30. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the retroviral vector is a lentiviral vector.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the lentiviral vector is an HIV-based lentiviral vector or an EIAV-based lentiviral vector.

32. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the at least part of the env protein is a rabies G protein, a VSV-G protein, a cocal virus glycoprotein, or a chandipura virus glycoprotein.

33. (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the retroviral vector is a lentiviral vector.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, wherein the lentiviral vector is an HIV-based lentiviral vector or an EIAV-based lentiviral vector.

35. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the at least part of the env protein is a rabies G protein, a VSV-G protein, a cocal virus glycoprotein, or a chandipura virus glycoprotein.

36. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the retroviral vector is a lentiviral vector.

37. (New) The method of claim 36, wherein the lentiviral vector is an HIV-based lentiviral vector or an EIAV-based lentiviral vector.

38. (New) The target adipose tissue cell of claim 12, wherein the at least part of the env protein is a rabies G protein, a VSV-G protein, a cocal virus glycoprotein, or a chandipura virus glycoprotein.

39. (New) The target adipose tissue cell of claim 12, wherein the retroviral vector is a lentiviral vector.

40. (New) The target adipose tissue cell of claim 39, wherein the lentiviral vector is an HIV-based lentiviral vector or an EIAV-based lentiviral vector.